

What is claimed is:

1. A solid, water-free and alkanol-free composite material comprising organic
5 and/or inorganic water-insoluble particles or pigments in a mixture with at least one compound of the general formula (I)



10 where

R is H, C₁₋₆ alkyl or benzyl

A is ethyleneoxy

15 B is C₃₋₁₀ alkyleneoxy or mixtures thereof,

it being possible for groups A and B to be randomly distributed, alternating or in the form of two or more blocks in any order,

20 n is an integer in the range from 4 to 8

x is a number in the range from 1 to 25

25 y is a number in the range from 0 to 10

and x + y is at least 1.

2. The composite material according to claim 1, wherein the particles are present in an amount in the range from 85 to 99.9% by weight and the compounds of the general formula (I) in an amount in the range from 0.1 to 30 15% by weight, based on the total amount of the composite material.

3. The composite material according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the compound of the general formula (I) is an alkyl glycol alkoxylate or alkyl diglycol alkoxylate obtainable by alkoxylating C₄₋₈ alkyl glycols or diglycols with the parent alkylene oxides of the units A and/or B.
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4. The composite material according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the compound of the general formula (I) is preparable by DMC-catalyzed alkoxylation.
- 10 5. A process for producing a composite material according to any of claims 1 to 4 by mixing the organic and/or inorganic water-insoluble particles or pigments and the compounds of the general formula (I) with heating where appropriate.
- 15 6. The use of a composite material according to any one of claims 1 to 4 as a filler and/or dye and/or for preparing aqueous dispersions.
7. The use of a composite material according to any one of claims 1 to 4 for producing paper, paints, inks, coatings, formulations for mineral processing
20 or paper finishing.
- 25 8. A paint, ink formulation, coating or overcoating composition or formulation for mineral processing, papermaking or paper finishing, comprising a composite material according to any one of claims 1 to 4 and, if appropriate, surfactants which in solution in water at 5 g/l exhibit an interfacial tension of less than 45 mN/m at 20°C, polymers if appropriate and, if appropriate, customary auxiliaries.
9. The use of compounds of the general formula (I) as defined in claim 1, 3 or
30 4 to treat organic or inorganic water-soluble particles or pigments for increasing wettability with polar liquids.